GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HOME AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:123
ANSWERED ON:23.07.2002
CROSS BORDER TERRORISM
BASUDEB ACHARIA;TRILOCHAN KANUNGO

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the position of cross border terrorism along the western border of the country as on date;

(b) the number of terrorist infiltrators detected and killed during the last three years and till date, month-wise alongwith their nationality;

(c) whether the Government are aware of the fact that terrorists from Pakistan have started choosing other neighbouring countries to send infiltrators into India;

(d) if so, the details of preventive steps taken in this regard;

(e) the diplomatic and security steps taken to tackle the problem of cross border terrorism in the country;

(f) whether the Government have any mechanism for constant consultation with leaders of political parties for taking effective steps against cross border terrorism; and

(g) if so, the details thereof and the results of such consultations?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI CH. VIDYASAGAR RAO)

(a)to(g): A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (g) OF THE LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO.123 ANSWER ON 23.07.2002

(a): Cross border terrorism sponsored, supported and funded by Pakistan continued this year particularly in J&K.Pakistan continues to put pressure on Sikh extremists particularly those based in Pakistan to carry out terrorist acts in India.The game plan of Pakistan to destabilize other areas by backing various terrorist groups to undertake sabotage, subversive and espionage activities as revealed from the modules neutralized in various States including Rajasthan, Gujarat and Punjab.

(b): It is difficult to indicate exact figures of infiltration for any point of time. It, however, appears from the available trends that there has been a decline in the level of infiltration from the western borders of the country particularly into J&K this year so far when compared with the previous years. This apparent reduction in infiltration cannot necessarily be attributed to control or restraint being exercised/ensured by Pakistan, but is the result of several factors including enhanced vigilance of our security forces on the western border including line of control in J&K.

Details of terrorists killed while attempting to infiltrate into India are not maintained at Central Government level.However, most of the foreign mercenaries killed in J&K were POK/Pak nationals, followed by Afghans.The other terrorists killed in J&K also include a significant proportion of those who have infiltrated. The year wise details of terrorists killed in J&K are as given below:-

Year	Foreign Mercenaries killed	Total number of terrorists killed.
2000	439	1520
2001	630	2020
2002(Upto 15/7/02)	283	917

(c): Available inputs point to Pak ISI`s designs and attempts to infiltrate terrorists through neighboring countries like Bangladesh and Nepal.

(d): The Government have taken several steps which include border fencing, intensification of border patrolling, supply of equipment

for effective border surveillance, sensitizing and alerting the State Governments regarding movement of terrorists, anti national elements and insurgents. The security agencies are under instructions to keep a strict watch on illegal entry into our territory from the neighboring countries.

(e): In addition to continued diplomatic initiatives at various levels and redeployment of troops at borders/LoC and intensive pressure on terrorists in the hinterland, the Government conjointly with the State Government, has adopted a multi-pronged approach to contain cross border terrorism perpetrated by the pro-Pak terrorist outfits ISI in Jammu and Kashmir, which includes, inter-alia, strengthening border management to check infiltration; pro-active action against terrorists within J&K; gearing up of intelligence machinery, greater functional integration through an institutional frame work of Operation Groups and Intelligence Groups of the UHQ at all levels; improved technology, weapons and equipment for security forces both in the Centre and the States and action as per law against over ground supporters of the terrorists.

The strategies, tactics and dynamic deployment to counter the terrorists are constantly reviewed, refined and monitored in the Unified Headquarters in the State and in Operation Groups at various levels at the Centre and in the concerned States.

(f)&(g): The Government has been making every effort to consult the leaders of various political parties from time to time to elicit their views on the issues of cross border terrorism in India and especially in J&K through institutions like the Parliamentary Standing committee, the Consultative Committee of MPs for MHA as well as all Party meetings which have been specially convened from time to time.